

HONORABLE RICHARD JONES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

(1) JOSE LUIS IBARRA-VALLE,  
(2) JESUS GUTIERREZ-GARCIA,  
(3) JESUS GARNICA-MELGOZA,  
(4) HUMBERTO GARCIA,  
(5) SANTOS CARO,  
(6) CHARLES HOFFMAN,  
(7) LEE WALLETE, and  
(8) TISHA GIRTZ,

Defendants.

Cause No. CR20-197 RAJ

**ORDER APPOINTING  
DISCOVERY COORDINATOR**

It is hereby **ORDERED** that Russell M. Aoki of Aoki Law, PLLC is appointed as  
Coordinating Discovery Attorney for Court-appointed Defense Counsel.

The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall oversee any discovery issues common to all  
Defendants. His responsibilities will include:

- Managing and, unless otherwise agreed upon with the Government, distributing  
discovery produced by the Government and relevant third-party information common to  
all Defendants;

///

- Assessing the amount and type of case data to determine what types of technology should be evaluated and used so duplicative costs are avoided and the most efficient and cost-effective methods are identified;
- Acting as a liaison with federal prosecutors to ensure the timely and effective exchange of discovery;
- Identifying, evaluating, and engaging third-party vendors and other litigation support services;
- Assessing the needs of individual parties and further identifying any additional vendor support that may be required—including copying, scanning, forensic imaging, data processing, data hosting, trial presentation, and other technology depending on the nature of the case;
- Identifying any additional human resources that may be needed by the individual parties for the organization and substantive review of information; and
- Providing training and support services to the Defense teams as a group and individually.

When executing these responsibilities, the Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall assess the most effective and cost-efficient manner to organize the discovery with input from Defense Counsel.

The Coordinating Discovery Attorney's duties do not include providing representation services, and therefore will not be establishing an attorney-client relationship with any of the defendants. Discovery intended for Counsel of a specific defendant and not to be shared among all Defense Counsel, shall be produced by the Government directly to Defense Counsel for that defendant. For discovery common to all Defendants, discovery issues specific to any defendant shall be addressed by Defense Counsel directly with the Government and not through the Coordinating Discovery Attorney.

For any common discovery already produced by the Government prior to this Order, the Government shall provide a copy to the Coordinating Discovery Attorney within 14 days. Any

1 additional discovery not already produced shall be provided directly to the Coordinating  
2 Discovery Attorney, who shall duplicate and distribute the discovery to all Defense Counsel,  
3 unless the Government elects to produce discovery directly to Defense Counsel with a  
4 simultaneous copy to the Coordinating Discovery Attorney. The Government shall work with  
5 the Coordinating Discovery Attorney to provide discovery in a timely manner.

6 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall petition this Court, *ex parte*, for funds for  
7 outside services and shall monitor all vendor invoices for these services including confirming the  
8 work previously agreed to be performed. However, the Court acknowledges his time and the  
9 time spent by his staff will be paid by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Defender  
10 Services Office. All petitions for outside services shall include a basis for the requested funds  
11 and a determination that the costs of the services are reasonable.

12 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall also provide this Court with monthly *ex parte*  
13 status reports depicting the status of work and whether that work remains within the budget of  
14 any funds authorized by the Court, with the copy provided to Defense Counsel.

15 DATED this 28th day of April, 2021.

16  
17 

18 The Honorable Richard A. Jones  
19 United States District Judge  
20  
21  
22  
23